

REMARKS

The specification has been amended at page 60 to make it clear that element 59 is a designation of the volatile components of fuel 58; changes have been made in two places in that paragraph. As a result of this change, it is unnecessary to submit revised drawings, and it is believed that the second objection to the disclosure has been overcome as well.

The Examiner stated that it was unclear as to what applicants are describing at page 39, lines 8 to 22; the Examiner asked which cells are implied there, 14 cells, or 10 cells or 4 cells. That portion of the specification describes an embodiment in which the starting point of the undulated thin walls is the tenth cell from the outermost peripheral wall. A rendition of this embodiment is enclosed for use as the Examiner deems fit. It is respectfully submitted that the specification is proper.

The rejection of claims 8 and 36 under 35 USC 102 as anticipated by JP '580 is respectfully traversed. Figs. 2(a) and 2(b) are said to show the construction of the claimed subject matter. Applicants respectfully disagree and point out

that independent claim 36 specifically requires the second wall face portions having a flat shape to intermingle with the first wall face portions having an undulated shape. A review of the drawings cited by the Examiner reveals that the shape of the waves are synchronized with each other, which is clearly established by the discussion in paragraphs [0013] and [0018], wherein it is stated that the wave shapes of the respective waved walls are synchronized with each other, and that the direction of the concave and convex shapes of the walls is the same direction. Such a construction is not that recited in claim 8 and 36, the claims patentably distinguish thereover, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

The rejection of claims 1, 6, 7, 9, 10, and 16 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over JP '580 in view of Gulati '610 is also respectfully traversed.

As indicated above, the primary reference shows embodiments in which the shapes of the waves are synchronized with each other. A similar arrangement is shown in Fig. 2 of the secondary reference, wherein the shapes of the waves are synchronized to each other in both the Y-axis and the X-axis. The last section of independent claim 1 requires the recessions

and protrusions on one wall face portion and the recessions and protrusions on the other wall face portion to be positioned in a manner so that the protrusions of each face one another and the recessions of each face one another. See instant Fig. 2 and the discussion in the specification at page 27, line 19 to page 28, line 22. Neither reference shows a configuration as claimed. Accordingly, one of ordinary skill in the art would not arrive at the instantly-claimed subject matter from a joint consideration of these references. Moreover, the shape in JP '580 appears to be intended to achieve a particular purpose, meaning that the person of ordinary skill in the art would have no reason to look to a secondary reference further to modify the shape. The rejection should be withdrawn as well.

The rejection of claims 1, 4, 7, 10, and 16 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable JP '141 in view of Gulati '614 is also respectfully traversed. The English translation provided of JP '141 identifies Fig. 2 as a prior art monolithic catalyst carrier; see the top of page 4 of the translation. The references in combination would not lead the person of ordinary skill in the art to the subject matter claimed, an example of which is shown in instant Fig. 1(b). The rejection should be withdrawn as well.

The rejection of claim 5 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over JP '141 in view of Gulati '614, further in view of GB '640 and Maus et al. WO '876; the rejection of claims 6 and 18 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over JP '141 in view of Gulati '614, further in view of JP '784; the rejection of claim 18 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over JP '580 in view of Gulati '614, further in view of JP '784; and the rejection of claims 11 and 17 under 35 USC 103 as unpatentable over either JP '580 in view of Gulati '614 or JP '141 in view of Gulati '614 and JP '784, further in view of Abe et al. '119 are respectfully traversed. The tertiary references are cited to show particular detailed aspects of those claims. The references, however, do not provide what is missing from the primary and secondary references as discussed in detail above. The rejection of these claims should be withdrawn as well.

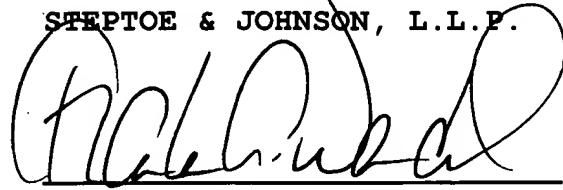
In view of the foregoing revisions and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and a USPTO paper to those ends is earnestly solicited. Applicants continue to respectfully submit that all pending claims, save method claims 30 to 32, should be allowable if the examined claims are allowable; see the first paragraph on

Serial No. 09/830,030

page 16 of the Amendment Under 37 CFR 1.116 filed October 7, 2005. The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if additional changes are required in the case prior to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON, L.L.P.



Charles A. Wendel
Registration No. 24,453

Date: April 10, 2006

Enclosure

CAW/cd

STEPTOE & JOHNSON, L.L.P.
1330 Connecticut Ave, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: (202) 429-6415

New Attorney Docket No. 28953.7211
Old Attorney Docket No. WATK:211